

He is from Sierra Leone. This past year, Mactar had his right hand and his ear cut off by rebel thugs in Sierra Leone. The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) and I met Mactar at an amputee camp this past December.

At the amputee camp, Mactar introduced us to thousands of people who were lucky to be alive. The people we met were the survivors, those who did not bleed to death as they struggled to flee the rebels who had cut off their arms, their legs, and their ears.

No one was spared the brutal, grotesque, and evil actions of the rebels. Infant babies had their arms and legs cut off. Young men in the prime of their life suddenly had half a leg. Women were raped by rebels and then had their limbs amputated, only to give birth several months later as a result of the rape they suffered.

Why did the rebels of Sierra Leone do it? They did it because of diamonds. Diamonds to profit and control and trade in Sierra Leone. The trade in conflict for blood diamonds must stop.

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) has a bill, the CARAT Act, H.R. 5147. Pass the bill, stop the flow of blood from conflict diamonds.

URGING DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO END NONSENSE AGAINST MICROSOFT

(Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, hopefully Tuesday, September 26, marked the turning point in the misguided antitrust suit against Microsoft when the Supreme Court turned down a Hail-Mary plea by the government to hear Microsoft's appeal.

Two new studies, one from the Institute of Policy Innovation and one from the Association for Competitive Technology calculate the annual economic damages caused to our economy would range between \$20 billion and \$75 billion a year.

I would like to quote Milton Friedman, the Nobel Laureate Economist who said, "Silicon Valley is suicidal in calling government in to mediate in the disputes among some of the big companies in the area and Microsoft. The end result will be that an industry that up to now has been able to proceed at a marvelous pace with little or no government regulation is now going to have government all over it. It is going to spend in legal fees over the next 10 or 20 years, money which society would benefit from much more if it were spent in the kind of research and development that has brought us many miracles in the area of Internet, in the area of home computers, industry computers, and all the rest."

The Berkshire Hathaway vice-chairman, Charles Munger, says "The Justice Department could hardly have come up with a more harmful set of demands than those it now makes. If it

wins, our country will end up hobbling its best-performing high-tech businesses."

I urge an end to this madness.

WELFARE REFORM SUCCESS

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, hearing the Democrats say they reformed welfare is similar to saying all of us in this House won gold in the Olympics. Did we participate in the success at Sydney? No. But did this Nation benefit from the years of practice and experience of these gold medals? Yes.

When we were talking about reforming welfare, the Democrats said welfare reform would fail, and President Clinton vetoed this legislation twice.

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Well, failure could not be further from the truth today. Taxpayers are better off than they were 4 years ago due to fiscal responsibility and reforms passed by the Republican Congress. Six years ago welfare checks in the Northeast totaled about \$47 million, and this year the costs are about \$12 million, nearly \$35 million in savings.

Republicans have helped restore incentive to work instead of dooming families to a life of continued dependencies. Our policy should be a hand up, not a hand out.

SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I think a lot of Americans listened to the debate last night. A lot of us have been working on Social Security for a long time, certainly our Speaker pro tempore, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SHAW), myself, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM), the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE), and many others have been looking at ways to keep this most important program continuing to be solvent. A lot of people depend on it.

I was very upset last night with some of the comments on Social Security. The Vice President has got a plan that I think does not solve the huge problem of keeping Social Security solvent.

Let me just go through this chart briefly. The biggest risk is doing nothing at all. Social Security has a total unfunded liability of over \$20 trillion. The Social Security Trust Fund contains nothing but IOUs. That is what the Vice President is suggesting, that we add another giant IOU and somehow come up with the money. How are we going to come up with the money?

The last point. To keep paying program Social Security benefits, the payroll tax will have to be increased to at least 50 percent of total income; 50 percent of total income for our FICA taxes

or benefits will have to be cut by one-third.

We cannot continue to go on doing nothing. We have to make some program changes if we are going to keep this important program solvent.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 4942, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Mr. ISTOOK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 4942) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAW). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. MORAN OF VIRGINIA

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. MORAN of Virginia moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendments to the bill H.R. 4942 be instructed to recede from disagreement with the amendment of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) will be recognized for 30 minutes and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. ISTOOK) will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the motion, as it was read, would instruct the conferees to accept the Senate version of the District of Columbia appropriations bill for fiscal year 2001. The reason is that the Senate bill is a superior bill.

The Senate bill is a bill that was supported by virtually all of the Republicans and Democrats in the Senate, will be supported by virtually all of the Democrats and I think a great many Republicans in the House. It is a bill that is supported by the Mayor of the District of Columbia and by the D.C. City Council, the properly elected officials to govern the district. And it is the only bill that the President will sign.

This bill provides \$34 million more in Federal funds to enable the District to undertake important economic development, environmental restoration and educational opportunity activities. It fully funds the Federal commitment to build the New York Avenue metro station; and, in fact, it represents only a third of the cost, given the fact that if